



295 Washington Avenue, Suite 2  
Hamden, CT 06518  
203-288-7996 [lwvct@lwvct.org](mailto:lwvct@lwvct.org)  
<https://my.lww.org/connecticut>

**CGA Environment Committee**

March 10, 2023 Public Hearing

Testimony Submitted by Anne Schmidt, Environment & Climate Specialist

**Support for:**

**HB 6814 AAC THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CODING SYSTEM FOR THE DESIGNATION OF RECYCLABLE AND COMPOSTABLE PRODUCTS**

**SB 1145 AAC THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SECTOR SPECIFIC SUBTARGETS FOR GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS AND REGULATING EMISSIONS OF SMALL-OFF ROAD ENGINES**

**SB 1147 AAC THE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.**

The League of Women Voters of Connecticut is a nonpartisan, statewide organization that seeks to make it easier for eligible voters to register and maintain their voter registration, to promote active citizenship, and to build confidence in elections and government through effective public policy. We promote an environment beneficial to life through the protection and wise management of natural resources in the public interest. The League of Women Voters believes that climate change is a serious threat facing our nation and planet. The League is calling for prompt action to cut GHG emissions and invest in a clean energy economy. We appreciate the opportunity to submit comments on bills before you today.

**HB 6814 ACC THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CODING SYSTEM FOR THE DESIGNATION OF RECYCLABLE AND COMPOSTABLE PRODUCTS.**

The League of Women Voters is dedicated to preserving natural resources. We need to keep plastics out of our oceans and waste stream and ultimately reduce the use of plastics. This bill would standardize the coding system for what is truly recyclable with the code "R." Items that are not recyclable would have no code. Additionally, items that are compostable would get the code "C." This coding system would increase diversion of items from waste stream and encourage use of nonplastic packaging alternatives. This bill and along with Extended Producer Responsibility as outlined in HB 6664, CT could make measurable headway in reducing the use of plastics, moving toward truly recyclable packaging, and reducing waste.

**SB 1145 AAC THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SECTOR SPECIFIC SUBTARGETS FOR GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS AND REGULATING EMISSIONS OF SMALL-OFF ROAD ENGINES**

The League of Women Voters believes, as citizens of the world, we must protect our planet from the physical, economic, and public health effects of climate change. This bill requires DEEP to establish sector-specific emissions targets to achieve 80% emissions reduction by

January 1, 2050. “Negative emissions,” carbon sequestration/removal technologies, would be allowable, but DEEP must ensure that these technologies do not interfere with water quality or induce seismic and earth instability problems. DEEP must also develop a clear path (a roadmap) to reaching emissions goals.

**SB 1147 AAC THE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.**

The League of Women Voters has a long history of careful study prior to taking a position on an issue. While the League does not have a specific position on environmental justice, the League has positions on both addressing social justice and on environmental issues. Environmental justice communities have suffered the most by living near “affecting facilities” (e.g., fossil-fuel electricity plants) such as health consequences of polluted air, water, and soil. This bill would allow DEEP and CT Siting Council to deny permits for new or expansion of existing affecting facilities under the state’s EJ statute. In line 299, the bill should be amended to shall deny from may deny.

Thank you for providing us the opportunity to testify in favor of mitigating climate change effects.